NOAA Restoration Center

Tiburon Oyster Restoration

Project Description

To restore native oysters in Richardson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, Tiburon Audubon will build substrates on which the oyster larvae will settle on. They will have staff and trained volunteers monitor the oysters progress.

Project Nickname	Tiburon Oyster Restoration IFR Fy2003		
Location	Tiburon, Marin County, CA, 94920 SWR		
Program	Community-based Restoration	**Congressional District**	6
Lat, Long Coordinates	12229903, 3753591	**Land Ownership**	Private
Implementation Start Date	01-MAY-04	**Implementation End Date**	01-SEP-04
River Basin	San Francisco Bay	**HUC**	18050004
Geographic Identifier	Tiburon Peninsula	**USGS Topo Quad**	San Quentin
Project Status	Planning Stage	**Project Type**	Restoration

Project Status Description

Current update (6/29/04): The twelve oyster palates were place at the two sites on May 30 and May 31 st 2004.Current Update: Tiburon Audubon has been working on getting permits in place to place the oyster palates in the bay. As they do not currently have the permits in place they have not received any of their allocated funds yet. In the week of January 19 2004 Michele Pearson (Executive Director) and Mike McGowen (Senior Researcher) had a meeting with Adrian Klein of San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) and they went over the permitting requirements for the, ?Administrative Permit Application for a Minor Improvement?. The permit usually takes 30-90 days to process but Ms. Klein believes she can get it through in 60 days. They are submitting the permit application the week of January 26. Audubon just has to contact a few more agencies (local government, coast guard, regional water quality control board, and California Department of Fish and Game) to inform them about the plans to place substrate in the bay. It is anticipated that the Coast Guard will approve this easily as it is within a wildlife sanctuary, the substrates will be small, close to shore, well marked and are not in any boat lanes.
In October they moved the oyster shells to Tiburon Audubon Center from Romberg Center. Through the fall Tiburon Audubon had staff meetings to work out the volunteer structure. They have identified the need for about 40 volunteers, with various levels of responsibility.
Tiburon is looking at end of March or April as a time to put the oyster larvae in water. The departure from their original timetable is of not much concern because the oyster larvae will thrive in the warmer water.

Landmark Tiburon Penninsula

Number of Volunteers **Volunteer Hours**

Volunteer Description

They will have staff and trained volunteers monitor the oysters progress. At montly intervals, the science team, Audubon volunteers and Audubon staff will inspect a sample of oyster shell for recruitment and will measure the growth of settled oysters. In addition the science team will monitor fish use and volunteers will conduct bird surveys, paying special attention to oyster eating birds such as Oyster catchers and Scaup. Water quality will aperameters such as temperature, salinity, and secchi depth will be recorded monthly.

Proposed Project? N **Project Closed?** N **FY Completed**

Habitat Information

Type	Acres Created	Acres Re-established	Acres Rehabilitated	Acres Enhanced	Acres Protected	Stream Miles	# Plants/ Animals
oyster reef							

Species Information

Commonname	Genus	Species	Population Name	NMFS Status	Species Type
Oyster, olympia	*Ostrea*	*conchaphila*			animal

Partners

Restoration Techniques

oyster reef construction

Institute for Fisheries Resources
Audubon Naturalists Society
National Marine Fisheries Service

Contacts

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Local

NOAA Involvement

source of funding

Monitoring Information

Characteristic	Type
Temperature	Structural
Fish density/diversity	Structural
Salinity	Structural
Light penetration (Secchi)	Structural
Benthic invertebrate utilization	Structural

Additional Info

Other monitoring include oyster spat counts and bird utilization of oyster reefs

Funding Information

Funding Mechanism	FY Awarded	NOAA Contribution	Partnership Contributio	Total Partnership Contribution
Institute for Fisheries Resources	2003	$30,025	$0	$30,025
TOTALS		$30,025	$0	$30,025

Other Non-Federal $ $0 **Other Federal $** $30,025 **Total Project Cost** $60,050

Funding Recipient Tiburon Audubon Center

Funding Comments

Project Abstract

This project will attempt to restore native oysters through provision of appropriate substrate for oyster larvae to settle on, out-planting oysters to document tjeir growth and survival, and monitoring the interactions occuring between created oyster habitat and surrounding populations of fish and birds. Water quality measurements will also be taken to document the ecological functions of native oyster communities (i.e. filtering)